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A NEW SPECIES OF ERICA FROM THE CALEDON
DIVISION: I

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Erica oliveri H. A. Baker sp. nov. (*Ericaceae-Ericoideae*) Ceramia.

Fruticulus diffusus tenuis vel parvus densus, circa 15 cm. altus. *Rami* tenues minute hispidi. *Folia* 3-nata, petiolis adpressis divaricata, ad 6 mm. longa vel raro longiora, crassa sulcata glabra, setis paucis parvis apice induta. Inflorescentia ternate umbellata, in ramulis foliis valde minutis, nonnihil similibus bracteis instructis. *Pedunculi* 1.5—1.8 cm. longi, glandulis sessilibus minutis: bractee 3, ovato-lanceolatae remotae, 1 mm. longae, in marginibus glandulis minutis sessilibus instructae et apice setis minutis penicillatae, superiores fere medianae, inferior basin versus posita. *Sepala* lanceolata, 1.5 mm. longa, carinata glabra, marginibus, solum ubi corolla contingentibus, minutis glandulis sessilibus indutis et apice setis penicillata. *Corolla* depresso-globosa, 2 mm. longa 3—3.5 mm. lata, glabra rubicunda valde viscida, glandulis parvis multis: lobi recurvi. *Filamenta* lata et complanata, 1 mm. longa: antherae exsertae subterminales, oblongae glabrae muticae, 1 mm. longae, poro tres partes lobi aequali. *Ovarium* glabrum; stylus exsertus et supra antheras acriter inflexus: stigma capitatum.

A diffuse and slender or small and compact shrublet about 15 cm. high. *Branches* slender, minutely hispid. *Leaves* 3-nate, spreading from adpressed petioles, up to 6 mm. long or rarely longer, somewhat widely spaced, thick and rounded, sulcate, glabrous with a few small bristles at the apex. *Inflorescences* ternately umbellate on modified branchlets bearing minute, bract-like leaves. *Peduncles* 1.5—1.8 cm. long with minute sessile glands; bracts 3, ovate-lanceolate, remote, 1 mm. long edged with minute sessile glands and with an apical tuft of minute bristles, the upper about medial, the lower near the base. *Sepals* lanceo-

late 1.5 mm. long, keeled, glabrous and edged with minute sessile glands where in contact with the corolla and with an apical tuft of bristles. *Corolla* depressed-globose, 2 mm. long by 3—3.5 mm. wide, pink, glabrous, extremely viscid with numerous small glands. *Filaments* broad and flattened, 1 mm. long; anthers exserted, subterminal, oblong, glabrous, mucous, 1 mm. long, pore $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the cell. *Ovary* glabrous: style exserted and curved over at right-angles above the anthers; stigma capitate.

CAPE PROVINCE: Bredasdorp and Caledon Divisions on the slopes above Sandie's Glen on the farm "Fairfield" at about 1,500 ft. *Oliver* 1555, holotype in the Bolus Herbarium and 1544, *Baker* 1859, 1862. Flowers in October—November.

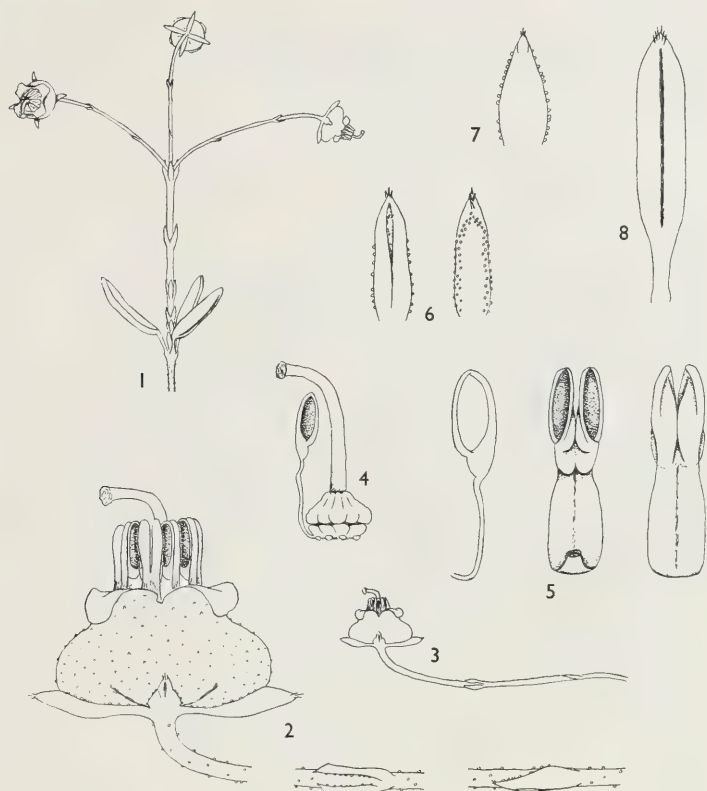
This plant was discovered by Mr. E. G. H. Oliver in a damp kloof at the top of Sandie's Glen in February 1961 when past its prime. On revisiting the site in company with the author in October it was found in the same place not fully mature. Further to the West on the slopes of Paardeberg it was found in profusion and in full flower in the marshy ground bordering the head of a small kloof facing South. It was in association with *E. placentaeflora* and *E. corifolia* in the first locality and with *E. colorans*, *E. placentaeflora*, *E. parviflora* and *E. cumuliflora* in the second.

E. oliveri is remarkable in (1) the very long peduncles and the modified branches with bract-like leaves which subtend the umbels. (2) The sharply curved styles some of which bend even further than a right-angle. (3) Its extreme viscosity.

It is possible that it is confined to this area and to the South-facing seepages at the head of the kloofs running down from the Paardeberg feature, though it was not observed in any of the others visited and, like so many of the marsh-loving species of *Erica*, appears to be locally abundant but, for some reason, very choosy in selecting a particular marsh from many, apparently, similar ones in the same locality.

The species has been named after Mr. E. G. H. Oliver who is making a study of the genus and of the minor genera and has already collected a number of hitherto unknown species and seems destined to add many more to the 600 or so already described.

I should like to thank Capt. T. M. Salter, R.N., for his Latin version and for correction of the manuscript, Mr. Oliver for the drawings and the curators of the Bolus and Compton herbaria for allowing me to use the facilities at their disposal.



Erica oliveri H. A. Baker. *Oliver* 1555. *Del.* E. G. H. Oliver. 1. sprig $\times$ 2, 2. flower $\times$ 9, 3. flower $\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 4. Gynoecium $\times$ 9. 5. anthers $\times$ 15, 6. sepals $\times$ 9, 7. bract $\times$ 15, 8. leaf $\times$ 9.

A NEW SPECIES OF ERICA FROM THE CALEDON DIVISION: II

Col. H. A. BAKER, O.B.E., M.C., Retd.

Erica pauciovulata H. A. Baker sp. nov. (*Ericaceae-Ericoidae*) Leptodendron.

Fruticulus erectus circa 30 cm. altus. *Rami* tenues sed robusti et diffusi quum inter Restionaceas, juniores minute puberuli. *Folia* 3-nata, aliquantum divaricata, arcte imbricata, pedunculos et calyces celantia, lanceolata sulcata glabra, 4 mm. longa, juniora breviter ciliata. *Flores* solitarii terminales in ramulis foliatis. *Pedunculi* brevissimi hispiduli; bractee 3, approximatae, acuminatae, scariosae. *Sepala* 1.5 mm. longa, imbricata, late ovata et alte convexa, apice propter margines volutos acriter acuminata, glabra, breviter ciliata, scariosa, basin corollae stricte amplectentia. *Corolla* urceolata-campanulata, 5.5—6 mm. longa, glabra, sicca, alte rubricunda, basi circa ovarium disciforme contracta: lobi erecti tubo circa aequantes, demum involute ocludentes supra fauces corollae. *Filamenta* lata, acriter ovarium amplectentia: antherae inclusae, subterminales, oblongae minute scabridae muticae, 1.3 mm. longae, poro tertia pars lobi aequali. *Ovarium* disciforme glabrum: cellae 4, plerumque 2-ovulatae: stylus inclusus; stigma capitatum.

An upright plant about 30 cm. high. *Branches* thin, strong and somewhat diffuse when among Restionaceae, the younger minutely puberulous. *Leaves* 3-nate, somewhat spreading, closely imbricate and concealing the peduncles and calyces, lanceolate, sulcate, glabrous, 4 mm. long, the younger ciliate. *Flowers* solitary, terminal on the leafy branchlets. *Peduncles* very short, hispidulous: bracts 3, approximate, acuminate, scarious, coloured. *Sepals* 1.5 mm. long, imbricate, broadly ovate and deeply convex with a sharply acuminate point formed by the rolling-in of the margins, glabrous, shortly ciliate, scarious, coloured and tightly clasping the base of the corolla. *Corolla* urceolate-campanulate, 5.5—6 mm. long, glabrous, dry, reddish pink, the base contracted round the disc-like ovary; lobes erect, about as long as the tube and at length closing in an involute manner over the mouth of the tube. *Filaments* broad and sharply curved round the ovary; anthers included, subterminal, oblong, minutely scabrid, muticous, 1.3 mm. long; pore one-third the length of the cell. *Ovary* disc-shaped, glabrous; cells 4, most usually two-ovulate but, occasionally, more or less; style included; stigma capitate.

CAPE PROVINCE. Caledon Division on the feature Paardeberg on the farm "Fairfield" at about 1,500 ft. *Baker* 1863, holotype in the Bolus Herbarium, *Oliver* 1553. Flowers October—November.

This plant was collected by the author and Mr. E. G. H. Oliver in a small, very wet marsh at the head of a minor kloof. It was in great abundance amongst *Restionaceae*. In this marsh there was no other species of *Erica* but, nearby, a few outlying plants were found on the edge of another, much dryer, marsh which was full of other *Ericaceae* of entirely different character. It is probably confined to this area.

Erica pauciovulata is most interesting and distinct for the following reasons: (1) The calyx is very tightly clasped round the base of the corolla and ovary; the sepals are deeply convex and imbricate and have a peculiar inrolled point. (2) The ovary contains very few ovules. In those dissected there were mostly two per cell but, occasionally, one or three. Ten in an ovary was the most counted. (3) The manner in which the corolla lobes fold over the mouth after maturity, completely closing it.

To assign this species to a particular section of the subgenus *Euerica* is very difficult. Owing to its glabrous corolla it would be an exception in *Ephesus* in which many of the marsh-loving species are and it does not appear to be related to any of the other species therein. On account of its somewhat diffuse habit it might appear to belong to *Ceramia* but, here again, it would be an exception owing to the length of the corolla and it does not resemble any species in Group 2 of that section. It has, therefore, been assigned to *Leptodendron* in which it has some resemblance to *E. campanulata* and can be fitted into the key without making an exception. It is not, however, a variety of that very variable species. When the time comes to revise the Genus no doubt a more suitable place will be found for it. It is almost impossible to place many of the new species found since *Flora Capensis* was compiled and revision is required though, very possibly, it is still too soon to do this. A great deal more field work is required before any useful revision will be possible unless some very flexible type of key can be devised which it would not be possible to print in book form.

The author is indebted to Capt. T. M. Salter, R.N., for his Latin version and other helpful assistance and to the curators of the Bolus and Compton Herbaria for placing the facilities at these institutions at his disposal.

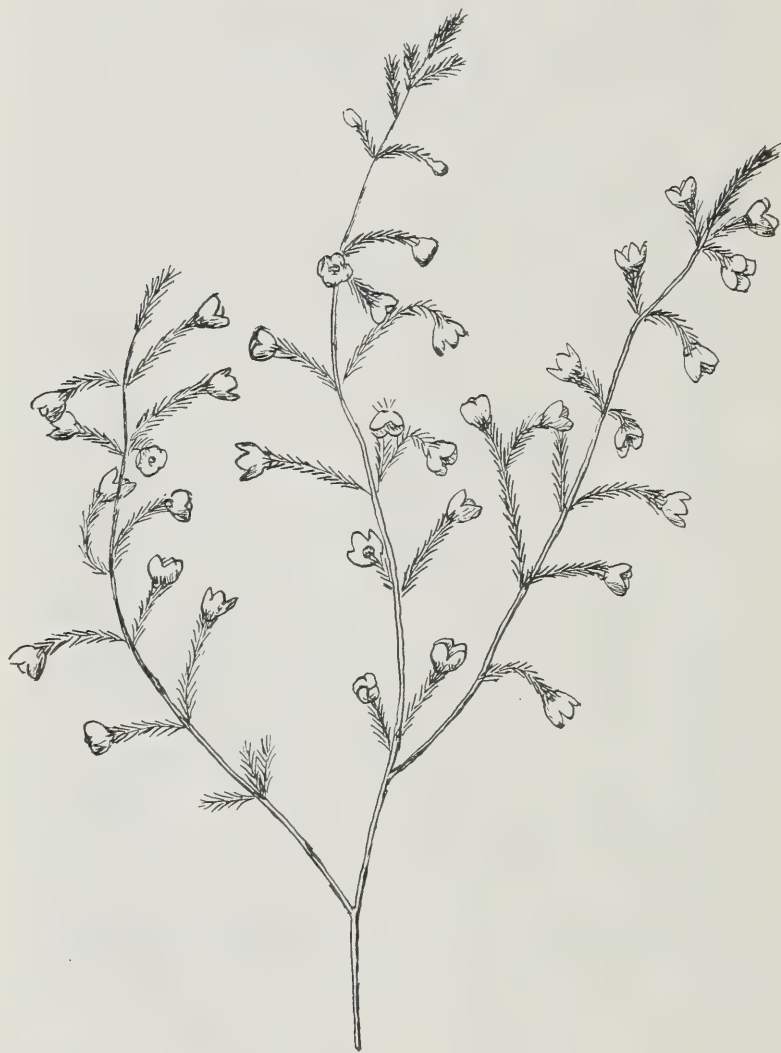


FIG. 1.—*Erica pauciovulata* H. A. Baker (Natural size) Baker 1863. Del. H. A. Baker.

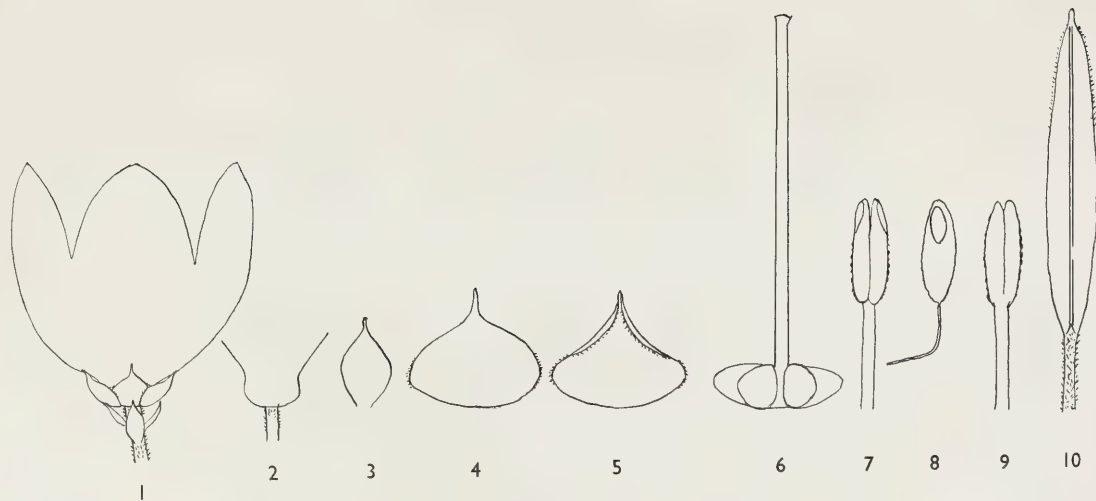


FIG. 2.—*Erica pauciovulata* H. A. Baker. 1. flower, 2. base of corolla $\times 6$, 3. bract, 4. sepal, outside, 5. sepal, inside, 6. gynoecium, 7. anther, front, 8. anther, side, 9. anther, back, 10. leaf. all times 12.